Mr. Ishmael Beah

c/o Sarah Crichton Books

Farrar, Straus and Giroux

19 Union Square West

New York, New York 10003

Shroder’s Address

5030 Duck Creek Road

Cincinnati, Ohio 45227

Dear: Ishmael Beah

First of all, I wanted to let you know that I look up to you in so many ways. The bravery that you exhibited in the book is very admirable. I knew that there was killing, a lot of corruption, and violence in Sierra Leone, but you helped me understand what’s really going on. You helped me understand what you and the other child soldiers went through. You talked about your personal experience and I can’t say that I can relate to what you went through because I don’t. But I went through some things in my life. It doesn’t amount to what you want through. You said you were so hungry at one point that your stomach was empty and your mouth was dry. I was reading the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and there were some articles in it that caught my attention. In particular, not all humans were born free and their conditions were not equal because their parents were living in poverty and/or military camps. Likewise, not everyone exhibited brotherhood.

Article 1.

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and Rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 6.

Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law

Sincerely: Du’Juan Thompson